

Borough of East Retford



Library

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH

FOR THE YEAR 1964

PRESENTED BY

G. TATTERSALL, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

INCLUDING

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

H. BROOKS, M.A.P.H.I., CERT. R.S.H. (MEAT AND OTHER FOODS)



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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(from May 1964)

Chairman Alderman J. R. Waterfield, J.P.

Vice-Chairman Councillor B. R. Pattison

Alderman J. W. Peatfield, c.c.

Alderman Mrs. M. E. Williamson

Alderman A. Wilson

Councillor Miss N. Bradshaw

Councillor H. E. Cooper

Councillor G. Cooper

Councillor H. Gomersall

Councillor B. Pollard, c.c.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. G. Tattersall

Chief Public Health Inspector: H. Brooks

Additional Public Health Inspector: B. Barnes (comm'd 25.5.64)

Clerical: . *Chief Clerk:* Mrs. J. Thorlby

Miss H. Walker

Mrs. J. Patchett (nee Meachen)
(resigned 19.9.64)

Miss P. Parsons (comm'd 28.9.64)

Telephone No.
RETFORD 2561

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
CHANCERY LANE,
RETFORD.

June 1965

TO THE MAYOR, AND TO THE
ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF EAST RETFORD

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In 1964 the population increased by 160. The estimated mid-year population is now 18,290.

The population of the borough has increased by 1,240 during the last five years: before then the five year increase of the population was 200.

The natural increases of births over deaths is 121 compared with 96 in 1963 and 67 in 1962.

The total live births is 344 which is 8 more than last year. The deaths from all causes is 223 which is less by 17 than the 1963 total.

In 1964 there were 8 infant deaths, and no maternal deaths.

The diseases notified in 1964 totalled 98. This was an interepidemic year for measles. Of the 35 cases that were notified, 28 were notified in December, probably heralding an epidemic for the following year.

There were 40 cases of dysentery the majority of which were notified in the spring and summer. Good personal and environmental hygiene will help to keep this disease at bay.

There were four primary cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. It is important that senior school children should be protected by B.C.G. Vaccination against the chance of contracting tuberculosis in early adult life: a course which I continue to commend.

Clean Air

It is interesting to note that the air of Retford is now being monitored for cleanliness by apparatus in the Public Health Department. Two more monitoring stations are to be sited on the periphery of Retford by the Electricity Board.

It has been an opinion held for some years that about 50 per cent of the dirt in the air of a town is due to the smoke of raw coal burnt in domestic grates. Because of the installation of up-to-date equipment industry is becoming less to blame for the creation of dirt. The present technological advance in domestic heating could bring about a remarkable improvement in the cleanliness of the air we breathe provided that there was the general will to make this advance.

In conclusion, I wish to thank you for your support during the year, and thank the officers of my department and of the other departments of the Borough for their help. I particularly wish to welcome Mr. Barnes, who joined the staff as a Public Health Inspector in May of this year, whose work is invaluable to the department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

G. TATTERSALL,

Medical Officer of Health

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND VITAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area	..	..	..	..	..	..	4,657 acres
Public Open Spaces	..	..	..	..	..	..	32.9 acres
Registrar General's estimated population, mid-year 1964	..	..	..	..	..	..	18,290
Number of hereditaments at 1st April, 1965	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,087
Rateable Value, 1st April, 1965	..	..	..	..	..	£	509,223
Sum represented by Penny Rate at 1st April, 1965	..	..	..	..	..	£	1,975

Vital statistics are calculated on estimated mid-year population given by
the Registrar General, i.e. 18,290

*Eng. &
Wales*

Live Births	..	..	T344	M182	F162		
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	..	18.8	18.4
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	..	..	..	..	..	5.2	
Still births	..	..	T9	M5	F4		
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	25.5	16.4
Total live and still births	..	..	T353				
Infant deaths (under 1 year)	T8		M5		F3		
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	20.3	20.0
Legitimate mortality rate per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	21.1	
Illegitimate mortality rate per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	..	..	..	..	55.5	
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	..	..	..	..	..	20.3	13.8
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	..	..	..	..	..	17.4	
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	..	..	..	..	..	42.4	28.2
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	..	..	T Nil				
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	Nil	
Deaths from all causes	..	..	T223	M120	F103		
Death rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	..	12.2	11.3

CAUSES OF DEATH — 1964

Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	..	..	0
Tuberculosis, other	..	..	..	..	0
Syphilitic disease	..	..	..	..	0
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	0
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	0
Meningococcal infections	..	..	..	..	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	0
Measles	..	..	..	..	0
Other infective and parasitic disease			..	..	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	..	..	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus			..	..	8
Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	..	..	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	..	..	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	..	..	14
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	..	..	1
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system			..	..	33
Coronary disease angina	..	..	..	..	39
Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	..	..	4
Other heart disease	..	..	..	..	28
Other circulatory disease	..	..	..	..	18
Influenza	..	..	..	..	0
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	5
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	12
Other diseases of the respiratory system			..	..	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	..	..	2
Gastitis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	0
Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	..	..	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	..	..	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	..	..	0
Congenital malformations	..	..	..	..	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases			..	..	29
Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	..	..	2
All other accidents	..	..	..	..	3
Suicide	..	..	..	..	3
Homicide and operations of war	..	..	..	..	0
Total					223

Causes of Death in Children under 1 year

Cause	Under 24 hrs.	Under 1 week	Under 1 mnth	1-3 mths.	3-6 mths.	6-9 mths.	9-12 mths.	Total
Asphyxia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Atelectasis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Erythroblastosis foelatis	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Multiple abnormalities	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Operation for meningocele	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Oesophageal atresia	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	5	1	1	1	—	—	—	8

Causes of Death in children aged 1-15 years

Cause	Pre-school	School-children	Total
Road Accident	1	—	1
TOTAL	1	—	1

Table showing deaths of children under 1 year over the last five years

Year	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
No. of deaths	8	6	7	3	5

Table showing Vital Statistics 1960-1964 (inclusive)

	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960
Population (mid-year population as estimated by the Registrar General)	18,290	18,130	18,020	17,910	17,380
BIRTHS:					
Live Births	326	317	271	307	288
— legitimate	18	19	15	11	15
— illegitimate	8	3	9	5	9
Still Births	— legitimate	1	—	1	2
— illegitimate	—	—	—	—	—
DEATHS:					
All causes	223	240	219	235	235
Maternal Deaths	—	1	—	—	—
Infantile deaths (i.e. under 1 year) ..	8	6	7	3	5
Neonatal deaths (i.e. under 4 weeks)	7	4	6	2	3
Early neonatal deaths (i.e. under 1 week)	6	3	4	2	2
Perinatal deaths (i.e. still-births and deaths under 1 week combined)	15	6	14	9	11

DEATHS FROM CANCER OF THE LUNG AND BRONCHUS COMPARED WITH ALL OTHER DEATHS FROM CANCER (EXCEPT LEUKAEMIA)

	Cancer of Lung and Bronchus	All other Cancer deaths (except Leukaemia)
Number	8	22
Average Age	62 years	70 years

PREVALENCE & CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following diseases are notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health:

Anthrax	Plague
Cholera	Pneumonia, Acute Primary
Diphtheria	Pneumonia, Acute Influenza
Dysentery	Poliomyelitis
Encephalitis (Acute)	Puerperal Pyrexia
Enteric, Typhoid or Paratyphoid Fever	Relapsing Fever
Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever
Malaria	Smallpox
Measles	Tuberculosis
Membraneous Croup	Typhus
Meningococcal Infection	Whooping Cough
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Food Poisoning or suspected Food Poisoning

The number of infectious diseases (excluding Tuberculosis) notified during 1964 was 98. Details of these are as follows:

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>
Dysentery	40
Measles	35
Whooping Cough	10
Scarlet Fever	12
Salmonella Infection	1

Tables showing various details about notifiable infectious diseases during 1964 are given on pages 13 and 14.

Tuberculosis

Five cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year; of these four were primary notifications, i.e., related to persons who had not previously been notified in the area of any authority, and one was a non-primary notification, this being a transfer from another area.

A table giving details of new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis is given on page 12.

Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations were carried out by the Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln and Sheffield. Two hundred and forty-nine samples and specimens were submitted for examination.

Vaccination and Immunisation

This is a Personal Health Service and is the responsibility of the County Council. This work is organised by the District Medical Officer of Health for the County Council. Protective injections are given against Smallpox, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis.

Prophylactic Measure	By P.H. Dept	By P.P.
----------------------	--------------	---------

Diphtheria Immunisation

Primary Immunisation	112	160
Reinforcing doses	220	54

Whooping Cough Immunisation

Primary Immunisation	99	159
Reinforcing doses	75	19

Tetanus Immunisation

Primary Immunisation	111	160
Reinforcing doses	78	20

Vaccination against Smallpox

Primary Vaccination	43	68
Re-vaccination	3	0

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Salk (1st and 2nd injections) ..	0	0
Oral (three doses)	122	182
Reinforcing doses (Salk or Oral)	125	58

P.H. Dept — Public Health Department

P.P. — Private Medical Practitioner

Protection against Tuberculosis

A scheme for the protection of adolescents against Tuberculosis has been in progress since 1957.

This scheme involves the skin testing and B.C.G. vaccination of all children of secondary school age, and students.

The work is organised by the District Medical Officer of Health as agent for the County Council.

The figures for 1964 are given below.

No. of children offered vaccination	..	..	..	278
No. of children whose parents accepted	..	..	..	215
Rate of acceptance	77.3
No. of children skin tested	296
No. found to be positive and referred for x-ray	..	..	..	50
No. found to be negative	..	..	..	230
No. of children vaccinated	230
No. re-tested after previous vaccination	..	..	..	27
No. re-vaccinated	3

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and deaths – 1954-1963 inclusive

	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
New cases	2	4	11	3	10	14	16	9	6	17
Deaths	0	2	0	1	2	0	5	1	2	3

NEW CASES

1964	Annual average over previous ten years
4	9.2

DEATHS

1964	Annual average over previous ten years
0	1.6

TUBERCULOSIS 1964

New Cases and Deaths

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-3 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4-5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-35 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

Infectious Diseases (Excluding Tuberculosis) Notified in Age Groups — Admitted to Hospital, and Deaths, 1964

DISEASES	At all ages	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-10 years	10-15 years	15-20 years	20-35 years	35-45 years	45-65 years	65 & over	Age un- known	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths	
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	35	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	12	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	10	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salmonella Infection	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	98	3	8	5	15	5	39	11	1	2	3	—	6	1	—	—	—

Infectious Diseases (Excluding Tuberculosis) Notified Month by Month — 1964

DISEASES	Total	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	40	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28
Measles	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	12	1	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Scarlet Fever	10	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salmonella Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	98	4	4	13	8	10	12	5	1	1	4	6	30

SERVICES PROVIDED BY OTHER AUTHORITIES

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

(a) Hospital and Specialist Services (Part II National Health Service Act, 1946)

The Sheffield Regional Hospital Board is responsible for the hospitals serving East Retford Borough and Rural District through a Hospital Management Committee. There are four hospitals:

Victoria Hospital, Worksop;
Kilton Hospital, Worksop;
Carlton Hospital, Nr. Worksop;
Retford and District Hospital, Retford.

The Worksop and Retford Hospital Management Committee carries out the day-to-day administration of these hospitals.

(b) Health Services provided by Local Health Authorities

The Nottinghamshire County Council provides the following services under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946 (Dr. A. R. Margetts, County Medical Officer and Principal School Medical Officer).

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.
2. Domiciliary Midwifery.
3. Home Nursing.
4. Health Visiting.
5. Vaccination and Immunisation.
6. Ambulance Service.
7. Prevention of illness, care and after-care of persons suffering from illness.
8. Home Help.
9. Mental Health.

Care of Mothers and Young Children

(a) Infant Welfare Clinics are held at the Clinic, 22, Market Square, Retford, at the following times:

Mondays 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
Thursdays 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

A Medical Officer is in attendance on alternative Mondays and alternate Thursdays. Infant Welfare Clinics are also held at the Clinic, Welbeck Road, Ordsall, Retford:

Tuesdays 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

A Medical Officer is in attendance on alternate Tuesdays.

(b) Ante-Natal Clinics are also held at 22, Market Square, Retford, on alternate Wednesdays, from 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., when a Medical Officer is in attendance.

Domiciliary Midwifery

Mothers who can, and wish to be confined at home, are attended by one of the County Midwives, of whom there are three in the Borough.

Mrs. J. L. Ashworth,
2 Fairways, Ordsall, Retford.
Tel. No. Retford 2157

Mrs. Maltby,
125 Northfield Way, Retford.
Tel. No. Retford 2718

Mrs. B. Parker,
Milton, Tuxford.
Tel. No. Tuxford 513
(covering Retford Borough)

Home Nursing

This is a service which provides for the nursing of the chronically sick patients and of the less serious forms of acute illness where the doctor requests it. This service is provided by the Retford and District Nursing Association and the work is carried out on its behalf by:

Mrs. R. M. Daly,
16 Osberton Road, Retford.
Tel. No. Retford 2457

Mrs. B. Marmont,
6 Cornwall Road, Retford.
Tel. No. Retford 3224

Mrs. J. M. Wylie,
5 Millfield Close, Ordsall, Retford.
Tel. No. Retford 2959

Health Visiting

Health Visitors are State Registered Nurses with the knowledge of midwifery, who have attended a whole-time course in Public Health work and received the Health Visitor's Certificate. Their duties are in respect of the Personal Health Services. They work in the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics and do routine visiting of their districts, advising on prevention of illness and maintenance of health.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The vaccination and immunisation service is organised for the County Council by the District Medical Officer of Health, acting as the agent of the County Council.

Ambulance Service

The main ambulance station is situated in the Retford Borough and the vehicles comprise three ambulances and three dual-purpose vehicles, which will carry either sitting cases or stretcher cases, and also a four-berth Civil Defence training vehicle.

Home Help

The Office is in Chancery Lane, Retford. This most useful service provides domestic help where, on account of illness, age or other domestic reasons, it is required. Home Help Supervisor is Miss Turner, Telephone No. Retford 2419.

[c] Provision of General Medical and Dental Services, Pharmaceutical Services, and Supplementary Ophthalmic Services [Part IV National Health Services Act, 1946].

THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

The School Health Service (known as the School Medical Service until 1945) started officially in 1908, but its growth was greatly increased by the Education Act of 1944 and the National Health Service Act 1946.

The County Council as the Local Education Authority is responsible for the School Health Service.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

The County Council provides a welfare service for the aged and handicapped persons. The District Welfare Officer is Mr. J. Barrow, 3 Overend Road, Worksop. Telephone No. 2600.

MENTAL HEALTH ACT, 1959

The County Council provides a welfare service for the mentally handicapped. The District Officer for this purpose is Mr. Hughes, who has a call office at the Retford Child Welfare Centre, 22 Market Square, Telephone No. Retford 2926, between 11-12 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

DETAILS OF ATTENDANCE AT THE MATERNITY AND
CHILD WELFARE CENTRES DURING 1964

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Children</i>	<i>Expectant Mothers</i>	<i>Post-Natal Cases</i>	<i>Medical Consultations</i>
Market Square, Retford	4,909	61	1	846
Ordsall	2,058	Nil	Nil	298

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

Sewerage, Sewage Disposal and Refuse Disposal are under the control of the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, who has given me the following information.

Sewerage and Drainage

The older part of the Borough is on the combined system, that is to say the surface water and sewage discharge into the same drain and the majority of the houses have this service.

Conservancy System – a small number of houses are not connected to the sewers. Of these, six (6) houses have pail closets. The emptying of these closets and/or privy middens is carried out by the Corporation.

A few houses have cesspools, and the emptying of these is the responsibility of the owner.

Sewage Disposal

The existing works at Bolham where treatment is by settling and land filtration, will be superceded by the works now in course of construction at Hallcroft. The treatment will be by biological percolating filters.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

Amount of refuse collected in 1964 was 7,150 tons approximately. Disposal is by tipping into disused gravel workings. This is not an entirely controlled method of tipping but is carefully watched and no nuisance has arisen.

The Corporation provides and maintains dustbins at dwelling-houses at an annual charge.

Public Baths

The Public Baths situated in Albert Road are owned by the Corporation, the swimming pool, 70 feet long by 30 feet wide, is covered and heated. Seven slipper baths are also provided.

Water is drawn from the public water supply, the pool being filled at the end of March and emptied at the end of September in each year. “Topping-off” water is added as required.

Pressure filters, break-point chlorination and chemical dosing plant have been provided, the turnover period of the water in the swimming pool is once every three hours.

Water heating is by means of oil-fired boilers and calorifier.

Bacteriological examinations have been satisfactory.

Water Supply

The Lincoln and District Water Board, of which the East Retford Borough Council is a constituent authority, supplies water within the Borough.

I am indebted to the Western District Manager, Mr. J. Hunt, of the Lincoln and District Water Board for the information given below.

All new houses constructed in the Retford Borough, have where required been supplied by water mains.

The water supply of the area and of its several parts has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

Bacteriological Examinations undertaken by the District Water Board

Number of samples taken ..	103
Satisfactory	102
Unsatisfactory	1*

* The unsatisfactory sample was due to a suspect dirty tap and/or stagnant water, further samples taken proved satisfactory.

Bacteriological Examination undertaken by the Public Health Department

Number of samples taken ..	40
Satisfactory	36
Unsatisfactory	4*

* Four samples taken were proved to be unsatisfactory, this could have been a fault in sampling technique, as subsequent samples proved satisfactory.

All dwelling-houses within the Borough are supplied from public water mains.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of the work carried out by the Public Health Department during the year are given in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

The Food and Drugs Act, 1955, provides for the sampling of food and drugs for analysis or for bacteriological or other examinations. The Notts. County Council is the authority responsible for these duties and I am grateful to Mr. Gregory, Chief Inspector, Food and Drugs, for a report of the Public Analyst upon articles analysed during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The tables on page 43 give a summary of the work with respect to matters under Part I of the Factories Act, 1961.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT (1948) AND NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

These Acts provide for the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. No action was necessary under the Acts during the year, though assistance in getting persons into hospital on a voluntary basis was given.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Particulars of samples examined and/or analysed during the year ended
31st December, 1964

Article	Number of Samples			Remarks
	Obtained	Genuine	Adult'd or Sub- Standard	
Apricots, Spanish	1	1	—	
Baby Food	1	1	—	
Beef and vegetable meal (Canned)	1	—	1	Contained only 15.5% of meat.
Biscuits	2	2	—	
Cheese.....	3	3	—	
Corn Flakes	1	1	—	
Corned Beef	1	1	—	
Crispbread	1	1	—	
Food drink	1	1	—	
Fruit cocktail in heavy syrup	1	1	—	
Ice-cream	2	2	—	
Jam	2	2	—	
Jelly.....	1	1	—	
Margarine	1	1	—	
Milk, evaporated	1	1	—	
Milk, dried	1	1	—	
Milk.....	36	32	4	Natural deficien- cies in solids- not-fat
Onion powder	1	1	—	
Peas, frozen	1	1	—	
Pies, steak and kidney	1	1	—	
Rum	2	2	—	
Sausage, beef	1	1	—	
Sausage, pork.....	2	1	1	Contained 62.0% meat and 330 p.p.m. undeclar- ed sulphur dioxide
Shandy	1	1	—	
Soft drink	1	1	—	
Soup, cream of tomato	1	1	—	
Spread, cheese with ham	1	1	—	
Spread, crab	1	1	—	
Sprouts	1	1	—	
Stuffing, sage and onion	1	1	—	
Sweets.....	1	1	—	
Tablets, vitamin.....	1	1	—	
Tea	2	2	—	
Toffee	1	1	—	
Sauce, tomato.....	1	1	—	
Whisky	1	1	—	
TOTALS	79	73	6	

Miscellaneous Food and Drugs Investigations

1. Bottle of milk: Contained minute particles of rust. Bottlers cautioned.
2. Loaf of Bread: Contained small patch of vegetable oil (as used on bakery machinery). Bakers cautioned.

“Twenty Years Ago”

Extracts from the Annual Report of 1944

by Dr. John Warrack and Mr. F. R. Smith

FOOD

“The percentage of animals in which visible tuberculous lesions were found in either the carcases or organs were Cattle – 32.8%; Pigs – 16.1%; Calves – 1.3%.”

“The total weight of meat condemned at slaughterhouses was 139,159 lbs., which is a reduction on 1943. The total number of animals slaughtered was 15,847.”

“There is no milk sold in the Borough from guaranteed tubercle free herds.” (183 visits to cowsheds and dairies, 190 milk samples taken).

HOUSING

“The shortage of houses is most acute and there is considerable overcrowding in the town. There is no prospect of any quick amelioration of this evil.”

“Some cases of houses in filthy condition and infested with vermin.. . we took vigorous action in all these cases, usually steaming the bedding, spraying and fumigating the house.”

PUBLIC HEALTH

“.....the district was attacked by an outbreak of Scarlet Fever which reached epidemic proportions. Luckily the majority of cases were of a mild type and the death rate was, in consequence, very light (148 cases.....124 removed to hospital.....1 death.....223 visits for infectious disease investigation).”

“.....134 cases of Scabies treated at the Cleansing Station in Brewery Lane.”

“.....visits to premises re nuisance – 147; properties under notice 75; offensive trades – 11; premises re rats – 64; house refuse and salvage – 277.”

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR 1964

To the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health as set out in the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959.

Sir,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my fifth report of the work of the Public Health Inspectors during the year 1964.

New Legislation

The only major statute enacted during the year which will materially affect the work of the Department is the HOUSING ACT, 1964. This act represents a major step forward in the public health field, the purpose behind the provisions being to secure that within the next ten years most of the improvable older houses which lack amenities and which still have a reasonable life are provided with hot water, a fixed bath or shower, a wash hand basin, an inside W.C., and a ventilated food store. Although voluntary participation is still to be encouraged improvement areas may be declared and compulsory powers used to improve tenanted dwellings and tenement blocks and elsewhere at the request of the individual tenant.

In addition, a spate of circulars and supplements in connection with the OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT of 1963 were issued to ensure uniformity of standards.

General

Reports in the press and on television during the year on such varied matters as the Aberdeen Typhoid outbreak, adverse conditions in wholesale and retail markets, houses in multiple occupation, noise, air pollution and the welfare conditions of shop and office workers have all contributed in making the public more aware of the duties and responsibilities of the Public Health Inspector. Consequently there has been a considerable increase in the number of general enquiries and requests for advice on these and other matters. In many instances such informal discussions lead to standards being attained far higher than the enforceable minimums.

With the appointment of Mr. B. Barnes as Additional Public Health Inspector early in the year it was possible to devote more time to work which has hitherto been neglected for more pressing day to day duties.

The following analysis gives a general indication of the variety of work carried out and the appropriate number of visits made although it cannot in any way indicate the time devoted to each section of the work.

Food Protection

Slaughterhouses – meat inspection and supervision ..	776
Food premises – inspections and interviews	420
Food – sampling, examination and condemnation ..	175
Inspection of corned beef supplies	207
	— 1578

Housing

Inspections under Public Health and Housing Acts ..	167
Re-closure, demolition, reconstruction or improvement ..	83
Miscellaneous – caravans, overcrowding, etc. ..	24
	— 274

Public Health and other matters

Defective drainage, statutory nuisances, etc.	108
Dirty/verminous premises, infectious diseases, etc. ..	94
Offensive trades, knackers yards	79
Rodent control, refuse, noise, pet animals, etc. ..	78
Offices, shops, factories, places of entertainment ..	164
Atmospheric pollution, petroleum installations ..	215
	—
	738

Interviews, Appointments and other Miscellany

412

—

3002

—

In addition a further 126 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors of the Retford Rural District Council to slaughterhouses for the purposes of meat inspection during my absence and on one or two evenings per week during the early part of the year.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES AND FOOD PREMISES

(a) SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION

Regular slaughtering continued throughout the year at the Public Abattoir and the two private licenced slaughterhouses within the Borough. 100% meat inspection was again achieved with the assistance of the two Public Health Inspectors of the Retford Rural District and later by the Additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. Barnes, who commenced duty on 25th May. I am indebted to all of these Inspectors for their participation in this work.

Slaughtering Facilities

The Public Abattoir serves the principal requirements of the private butchers in the Borough and Rural District and consequently the meat produced here and at one of the private slaughterhouses is generally of high quality. The number and type of animals slaughtered fluctuates only with the public demands and comparative costs of other foods.

The third slaughterhouse however specialises in the collection and slaughter of diseased or injured animals over a wide area as many slaughterhouses are now very hesitant to accept this type of animal, particularly at short notice. The serious physical state and neglected condition of many of these animals accounts for the high percentage of carcasses totally condemned.

Slaughterhouse Hygiene

The voluntary co-operation of slaughtermen and managements is desirable, if not essential, in maintaining a satisfactory standard of cleanliness of slaughterhouses, carcase meat and offal. These persons are generally to be commended for assisting in the improvements which have taken place over the last few years. However, there is no room for complacency and standards must continue to rise. All new works carried out with the improvements in 1961 are showing the need for re-decoration and general maintenance in both private and public undertakings.

Contraventions – Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations 1958

Despite numerous informal warnings before and since the coming into force of these regulations concerning the bringing of dead animals or bled carcases into a slaughterhouse without a veterinary certificate and for the purpose of using such meat for human consumption, it was eventually found necessary to institute legal proceedings against four slaughtermen and a slaughterhouse owner.

On two separate occasions a few months apart, a beast, on being eviscerated at the private slaughterhouse, was suspected by the slaughterman of being affected with anthrax and the matter referred to the local private veterinary officer and thence to the Diseases of Animals Authority for appropriate action.

Subsequent investigations after each event disclosed that the beast had died suddenly on its respective farm and the slaughterhouse notified of the circumstances. Attempts were made to bleed the carcase on the farm and it was admitted to the slaughterhouse for evisceration with a view to its use for human consumption. On neither occasion was a veterinary officer consulted before removal of the animal to the slaughterhouse.

Four of the five cases were proven and fines totalling £85 and costs were imposed.

Issue of Licences – Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

During the year 14 licences were issued to persons authorising them to slaughter or stun animals by the use of the approved stunning apparatus. Of these, one was for a limited period and was not renewed and another was for an apprentice slaughterman authorising him to slaughter 'smalls' under supervision.

Meat Inspection Regulations 1963

Until such time as possible future legislation enables all slaughtering within the Borough to be carried out within one premises it is practically impossible to fully implement these Regulations particularly with regard to ante-mortem inspection and the supervision of slaughtering. However, every effort is made to ensure that all carcases can be readily identified with their offal and that no meat leaves any slaughterhouse without first being inspected and stamped as fit for human consumption or subsequently condemned as unfit.

The following table indicates the incidence of disease and other affections occurring in animals slaughtered and inspected within the Borough. All figures in parenthesis indicate the corresponding figures in 1963.

<i>Slaughterhouses</i>	<i>No. of animals slaughtered and inspected</i>	<i>Whole carcases condemned</i>	<i>Other animals affected</i>	<i>Total percentage of animals affected</i>
Public	12,453 (10,708)	17 (13)	922 (989)	7.4 (9.3)
Private (1)	1,003 (1,729)	164 (254)	318 (485)	31.7 (34.6)
Private (2)	1,068 (1,038)	– (–)	68 (94)	6.4 (9.0)
Grand Totals	14,524 (13,475)	181 (267)	1,308 (1,568)	9.0 (13.6)

Figures for the Public Abattoir and one private slaughterhouse show an increase over the last five or more years while the casualty slaughter house figures are reduced. It must be assumed that more obviously unfit animals are being sent direct to knacker's yards in order to circumvent the requirements of the Meat (Staining and Sterilising) Regulations, 1960, or alternatively, are receiving early veterinary attention on the farms.

The following table, produced in the form prescribed by the Ministry, shows the number of animals slaughtered, inspected and affected with disease.

	<i>Heifers and Bullocks</i>	<i>Cows and Bulls</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Total</i>
Number slaughtered	2,314	189	78	5,607	6,336	14,524
Number inspected	2,314	189	78	5,607	6,336	14,524
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcases condemned	10	15	24	47	85	181
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	399	125	4	165	605	1,298
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease	17.67	74.0	36	3.78	10.9	10.11
Tuberculosis Only:						
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	3	1	—	—	17	21
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease	0.13	0.53	—	—	0.27	0.15
Cysticerci:						
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	29	3	—	—	—	32
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	9	1	—	—	—	10
Generalised and totally condemned.....	—	—	—	—	—	—

WHOLE CARCASES AND ALL OFFAL CONDEMNED

	Steers & Cows ♀					Pigs	TOTAL	1963
	Heifers	Bulls	Calves	Sheep				
Abnormal Odour	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1)
Anaemia	..	—	1	—	—	—	1	(7)
Actinobacillosis								
generalised	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	(—)
Actinomycosis								
generalised	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	(—)
Arthritis (with								
Emaciation)	..	—	—	—	—	1	1	(—)
Blackleg	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	(2)
Bruising, extensive								
and severe	..	—	—	—	2	—	2	(7)
Congestion	..	—	—	2	5	3	10	(31)
Emaciation and/or								
Oedema	..	..	1	3	9	22	4	39 (48)
Fever	..	..	2	3	2	—	2	9 (13)
Gangrene	..	..	—	1	—	1	5	7 (15)
Immaturity	..	..	—	—	5	—	—	5 (28)
Injury	..	..	—	—	—	4	—	4 (—)
Jaundice	..	..	—	—	—	—	4	4 (2)
Leukaemia	..	..	—	—	—	1	1	2 (4)
Moribund	..	..	—	2	—	1	—	3 (2)
Multiple Abscesses			1	—	—	—	17	18 (15)
Nephritis	..	..	—	—	1	—	2	3 (1)
Pyaemia	..	..	—	1	2	—	12	15 (13)
Pyelonephritis								
bilateral	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	(3)
Rickets	..	..	—	—	—	—	2	2 (1)
Acute septic Arthritis	—	—	—	1	1	2	4	(2)
Acute septic Mastitis	—	—	2	—	4	2	8	(11)
Acute septic Metritis	1	1	—	—	1	—	3	(5)
Acute septic								
Pericarditis	..	—	—	—	—	1	1	(12)
Acute septic								
Peritonitis	..	2	1	—	1	10	14	(19)
Acute septic Pneumonia	1	—	2	—	—	12	15	(14)
Other acute septic								
conditions	..	—	—	—	—	3	3	(3)
Swine erysipelas acute	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	(—)
Tetanus	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	(—)
Toxaemia	..	..	—	—	3	—	3	(5)
Tumours, multiple								
and/or malignant	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	(—)
Uraemia	..	..	2	—	—	—	2	(3)
TUBERCULOSIS		—	—	—	—	—	—	(—)
	10	15	24	47	85	181	(267)	

In addition, the following parts of carcases and offal were condemned as unfit for food and were directed to sterilising plants either within the Borough or at Bolsover. Certain cirrhotic livers are collected by the owner of a mink farm in the Rural District under approved conditions.

Part Carcases and Offal Condemned

Heads	73	(117)	Legs	103	(115)
Tongues	66	(116)	Loins/Backs	2	(6)
Lungs	373	(417)	Flanks/Bellies	14	(33)
Hearts	314	(327)	Shoulders	4	(4)
Livers	558	(647)	Oysters	8	(5)
Part Livers	173	(188)	Diaphragms	40	(54)
Spleens	25	(39)	Skin	2	(9)
Kidneys	92	(108)	Neck	1	(1)
Stomachs	8	(8)	Hind Quarters	13	(11)
Intestines	36	(37)	Fore Quarters	8	(8)
Udders	6	(11)	Whole Sides	-	(1)
Feet	13	(17)			

and miscellaneous trimmings making an estimated total weight of all meat condemned as unfit for human consumption of 18 tons. 4 cwts. 16 lbs. (30 tons. 19 cwts. 89 lbs.)

Incidence of Suspected Cysticerci found in Cattle

<i>Predilection Seats</i>	<i>Condition</i>	<i>Steers</i>	<i>Heifers</i>	<i>Cows and Bulls</i>	<i>Total cysts found</i>
Head and Tongue ..	Active	6	1	—	7
	Degen.	4	6	1	11
Heart .. .	Active	*4	*1	—	*10
	Degen.	8	4	2	14
Diaphragm .. .	Active	1	—	—	1
	Degen.	1	—	—	1

* One steer was found to have 3 cysts in the heart and one heifer had 4 cysts in the heart. No cysts were found on the exposed surface of the carcase meat when cut into wholesale joints, prior to being submitted to deep refrigeration.

(b) INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS

The following foodstuffs were submitted for inspection from local traders and voluntarily surrendered for destruction on being found to be unfit for human consumption.

Tins of:	Meat	62	Generally damaged, blown or opened and found to be decomposed
	Fish	25	
	Fruit	314	
	Vegetables	107	
	Milk	37	
	Soups	17	
	Fruit Juices	10	
	Tomato puree	3	
	Jams	4	
	Puddings	12	
	Spaghetti	3	
	Custard Powder	2	
	Strained Foods	2	
	Bournvita	3	
Jars of:	Onions	1	
	Mustard	2	
Bottles of:	Sauce	1	Generally damaged
	Lemon Kwench	1	
	Vegetable Cream	1	
	Salad Cream	1	

2	
19	
1	
4	
1	
1	
1	
1	
1	

Vegetables	606	
Meat and Meat Products	142	
Fish and Fish Products	483	
Fruit Products	56	
Chips	58	
Pastry	37	
Dinners	26	
Pies	11	
Cakes	20	
Cream	10	
Orange Drink	4	

Box of: Pears) Over-ripe

Loose Quantities of:

23 lb. Pork Tenderloin		
12 lb. Pork Luncheon Meat		
14 lb. Leg of Pork		
9 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. Ham		

12 lb. Corned Beef		
		) Opened tins of 'suspect' consignments

3 lb. English Lamb) Blood splash

Case of: Chicken Croquettes)
Turkey Croquettes)
Loose Ham Croquettes) Delay in transit, moulded

12 lb. Apricots) Moulded

Total weight of food condemned - 17 cwt. 90 lb.

The following samples were submitted for bacteriological examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Lincoln, and I am indebted to Dr. Croll and his Staff for their co-operation and advice.

Liquid Egg

29 samples of pasteurised whole liquid egg and 1 sample of unpasteurised egg were taken from the premises of Blyth Model Dairies, Union Street, and were found to be generally satisfactory. Although the Alpha-Amylase test is not carried out as routine at the Public Health Laboratory it must be assumed, by the absence of coliform bacilli in the samples, that pasteurisation is effective. The firm employs a full time laboratory technician, who has received additional training by the British Egg Marketing Board, and who carries out routine tests, including Alpha-Amylase, twice daily. Her records are readily available for scrutiny.

Ice-Cream

Forty-eight (48) samples were taken from retail shops within the Borough and eleven (11) samples from manufacturer's premises and mobile vans, the results being as follows:

<i>Pre-packed</i>			<i>Loose</i>			
Grade 1 (Excellent)	..	42	Grade 1	..	..	8
Grade 2 (Fair)	..	6	Grade 2	..	..	1
Grade 3 (Unsatisfactory)	..	Nil	Grade 3	..	..	—
Grade 4 (Very Unsatisfactory)	Nil		*Grade 4	..	..	2

* Further samples were subsequently taken from these premises and found to be satisfactory.

Water

Forty (40) samples of drinking water were taken from domestic and other main supplies within the Borough.

Thirty-six (36) samples proved to be satisfactory and four samples were unsatisfactory. This could have been due to the ineffective sterilisation of dirty taps as subsequent samples proved satisfactory. Copies of all results are sent to the Lincoln and District Water Board.

Swimming Bath Water

Daily examination of bath water for residual chlorine content is carried out by the Manager of the Public Baths, Albert Road.

Two routine samples were, however, taken during the year for bacteriological examination and proved to be satisfactory.

Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955 – Registration of Premises

One application was received for registration of premises for the purpose of manufacture of cooked meats, etc., and three applications to store and retail pre-packed ice-cream. All applications were approved and licences subsequently granted.

The total number of premises is now as follows:

Manufacture of pickled, pressed or preserved foods	..	14
Manufacture of ice-cream	..	2
Retailers of pre-packed ice-cream	..	63

(c) FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

During the year, a total of 348 visits were made to food premises to secure compliance with the above Regulations. Some improvements were effected but there is still considerable work to be done in this direction.

No statutory action was taken against food handlers for contravention of regulations.

The following table shows the number and type of food handling premises within the Borough at the end of the year together with the number of visits and notices served. They are classified in their principal trades, although many of them may handle other commodities such as milk, ice-cream, cakes, vegetables, cooked meats, frozen foods, sweets, etc.

	<i>No. of Premises</i>	<i>No. of visits</i>	<i>Informal notices served</i>	<i>Notices complied with</i>
Bakehouses	.. 8	14	5	3
Bakers Confectionery	.. 8	22	3	2
Butchers	.. 21	67	14	11
Cooked Meats – Sale	.. 3	4	—	—
Catering Establishments	13	43	2	1
Clubs and Canteens	.. 22	18	4	2
Dairies	.. 2	2	—	—
Food Factories	.. 9	32	1	1
Fresh Fish and Game	.. 4	6	—	—
Fried Fish and Chips	.. 9	17	3	2
Fruit and Vegetables	.. 10	15	3	3
Grocers	.. 22	20	4	3
General Dealers	.. 49	37	3	2
Hotels and Licenced Premises	.. 40	22	4	1
Sweet Confectionery	.. 21	23	2	2
Warehouses	.. 7	—	—	—
Mobile Vans	.. Not known	6	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Totals	248	348	48	33
	—	—	—	—

In addition the weekly markets held on Saturday in the Market Square and the Butter Market, and comprising some 66 food stalls were regularly inspected. Three (3) informal notices were served and

numerous verbal warnings given mainly regarding smoking while handling food or failing to protect food against contamination.

Contraventions – Details of Notices Served

Reg.	Contravention	Out-standing 1.1.64	Served in 1964	Notices complied with	Out-standing 1.1.65
6.	Lack of cleanliness (equipment)	1	2	1	2
8.	Inadequate protection against contamination	.. .. 1	8	5	4
9.	Smoking in food premises	.. –	4	4	–
14.	(i) Dirty, defective or inadequate W.C. accommodation	.. .. 2	7	7	2
	(ii) Wash your hands' notices not displayed	.. .. –	13	11	2
16.	Absence of adequate hand-washing facilities	.. 5	4	5	4
17.	No first-aid materials available	–	12	12	–
18.	No clothes locker accommodation	.. .. –	8	6	2
19.	Defective or inadequate facilities for washing food and equipment	.. .. 3	26	26	3
20.	Inadequate lighting to food rooms	.. .. .. 1	1	1	1
21.	Inadequate ventilation to food rooms	.. .. 1	4	5	–
23.	Disrepair and/or lack of cleanliness of rooms	.. 1	18	15	4

These are in addition to the many verbal warnings given to food handlers and stall holders concerning minor contraventions.

In June 1964, the typhoid outbreak in Aberdeen necessitated some 207 visits being made to food shops, cafes and canteens, to inspect stocks of corned beef and ox tongue. As a result of these investigations 61 tins (1 cwt., 14 lbs.) of suspect corned beef were voluntarily withdrawn from sale and returned to the wholesalers pending further investigation at Ministry level. Food handlers were found to be very co-operative in this matter and the opportunity was taken to again stress the necessity of regular hand-washing and the adequate cleansing of equipment and food rooms.

Although there is a noticeable improvement in the decorative standards and display techniques in food shops brought about as much by T.V. publicity and competitive trade practices as by the efforts of the Public Health Inspector, it appears to be becoming increasingly difficult to recruit sufficient number of the right type of person into the food industries. Only the larger firms can offer the proper training, laundered uniforms or overalls, welfare facilities and prospects of promotion within their organisations. The general standard of personal hygiene amongst many food handlers is therefore still open to considerable improvement.

Many of the more obvious dirty habits such as finger licking, smoking while handling food, blowing into bags, have disappeared as a result of informal warnings but the use of tongs and scoops for handling loose foods, protection of open cakes, etc. on counters and attention to fingernails and hair are matters which should still be commented upon by the customers.

Dogs are less evident in food shops nowadays and shopkeepers have been very co-operative in this matter by displaying notices issued by our Department.

HOUSING MATTERS

(A) UNFIT HOUSING

One hundred and forty eight visits were made during the year for the purpose of inspection and representation of unfit houses, and for the demolition, closure or reconstruction of houses under order.

The undermentioned twenty (20) houses were formally represented as being unfit for human habitation with the following results:

	<i>Demolition orders made</i>		<i>Closing orders made</i>	
46-48, Albert Road	..	2	1, Carr Villas (in lieu of D.O.)	1
2, Carr Villas	..	1	62, Cobwell Road ..	1

Clearance Orders (awaiting Ministry confirmation)

(a) 11, 13, 15, New Street	3 (C.P.O.)
(b) 6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, New Street.....	9 (C.P.O.)

Also:

182-184 New Inn Walk, Thrumpton –

Application from owners to accept 'Undertaking not to re-let' and to use for storage purposes (Undertaking formerly accepted – January, 1965).

11, Strawberry Terrace, Newtown –

Unable to trace owner. House closed by informal agreement with owner's brother after tenants had found private alternative accommodation.

During the year the Council re-housed 29 families (87 persons) from unfit houses, and six families (9 persons) found private alternative accommodation.

Position at 31-12-64:	Demolition Orders	Closing Orders	Under-takings	Clearance Orders	Totals
Houses demolished in 1964	13	1	4	18	36
Houses closed in 1964	N/A	2	–	N/A	2
Houses made fit and orders revoked	–	–	–	–	–
Houses vacant pending demolition	13	N/A	N/A	30	43
Houses still occupied	12	1	–	25	38
Houses awaiting Ministry confirmation	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	12

N/A – not applicable

(B) HOUSING REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS

[i] Rent Act, 1957:

No applications were received for Certificates of Disrepair.

[ii] Public Health Act, 1936:

One hundred and eighty eight (188) visits were made to properties from which complaints had been received regarding disrepair and/or defective drainage.

Twenty (20) informal notices and four statutory notices were subsequently served.

Work carried out under notices included the following:

<i>Repair/Renewal of:</i>		<i>Repair/Renewal of:</i>	
Roofs and Weatherings ..	1	Ceilings ..	.. .. 2
Chimney Stacks ..	1	Walls ..	.. .. 2
Eavesgutters/downspouts ..	6	Floors –
Water supply pipes ..	2	Fireplaces ..	.. .. 1
Yard surface ..	3	Eradication of dampness ..	.. 6
Windows	6	Drains cleared ..	.. 5
W.C. basins/cisterns ..	6	Drainage improved ..	.. 3
External pointing of walls ..	1		

[iii] House Purchase and Housing Acts, 1959-61:

This work is administered by the Borough Surveyor and I am generally kept informed regarding applications.

41 applications were submitted during the year for grant aid to carry out improvements to property as follows:

	<i>Standard Grants</i>	<i>Discretionary Grants</i>
To owner-occupiers	29	—
To owner of tenanted properties	7	5
Applications refused	—	—

Improvements approved were in respect of the provision of:

Baths	25	Internal W.Cs.	36
Washbasins	28	Ventilated food stores ..	13
Hot-water systems	26		

Twenty-three (23) schemes were completed during the year.

[iv] Housing Act, 1964:

A 'token' survey carried out in the Newtown area early in 1963 emphasised the need for those houses to be brought up to a reasonable standard of repair and provided with the five 'standard' amenities. It should now be possible to complete this survey with a view to the systematic improvement of the area. Although voluntary improvement is still to be encouraged, enforcement will certainly be necessary in many instances.

It is also anticipated that many tenants will take advantage of their right to ask for improvements to be carried out and will approach the Council for assistance.

Although this Act appears to be rather ponderous to operate it represents a major advance in environmental health and if properly implemented will prevent very many substantially built older houses from further deterioration.

In this matter the interests of the Public Health and Housing Committees are complimentary in securing better housing conditions under private ownership.

(c) CARAVANS

There is no caravan problem in Retford, although routine surveys need to be carried out of the district to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Act.

20 visits were made to enforce the removal of caravans from un-licenced sites but no statutory action was found to be necessary.

(D) OVERCROWDING

Only one complaint of overcrowding was investigated during the year and this was found to be incorrect when considered under the Sixth Schedule of the Housing Act, 1957.

No other cases of overcrowding were found during routine housing inspections.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND OTHER MATTERS

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

(1) Statutory Nuisances. Complaints were investigated concerning dirty/verminous premises and persons, refuse accumulation, noise and dust nuisance, etc., involving a total of 49 visits. 8 informal notices were served, 7 of which were complied with at the end of the year.

(2) Infectious Diseases and Vermin Control. Ninety-one visits were made to households in connection with notifications of infectious disease. Two cases of *Salmonella Brandenburg* were investigated but without determining the source of infection. Every opportunity is generally taken to advise householders on food hygiene and in particular to emphasise the need for care in the purchase, handling and storage of cooked meats, cakes, etc.

The eradication of vermin and insect pests is carried out principally by an employee of the Highways Department who also acts as part-time Rodent Operator.

Treatment included:

Ants ..	..	..	..	41	Fleas ..	..	..	..	1
Bed Bugs ..	..	..	..	—	Wasps ..	..	..	..	17
Beetles ..	..	..	..	17	Woodworm ..	..	..	..	7
Cockroaches ..	..	..	..	6	Crickets ..	..	..	..	1

Sample packets of insecticide are available free on request at the Public Health Department, and disinfectant is available for cases of infectious disease and other special circumstances.

(3) Common Lodging House. This house in Moorgate, which gives accommodation for 40 persons (male and female) with separate dormitory accommodation and a communal kitchen/dining room, is regularly inspected. The general standard of cleanliness continues to improve as the house becomes occupied more by permanent residents than by passing vagrants who often proved to be filthy and verminous.

(4) Mortuary. Eight bodies were admitted to the Mortuary, all of which were presumably for post-mortem examination, and all of these required to be laid out by the mortuary attendant. Four were former residents of the Borough, two from the Rural District and two from

other areas. This is a marked reduction on previous years clearly indicating that the pathologist considered the premises inadequate for post-mortem purposes and has made alternative arrangements.

(5) Provision of Refuse Bins. Under the Council's scheme for the provision of refuse bins to household premises at a basic rate of 7s. 6d. per annum, 285 refuse bins were issued during the year. Of these 101 were new applications and 184 were replacements of worn-out bins.

There are 2130 bins on hire within the Borough.

(6) Offensive Trades and Knackers' Yards (a) The trades of fellmongery, gut cleaning and fat extraction are carried out in a factory near the town centre, which is also a licenced knackers' yard.

Despite the high standard of cleanliness which is generally maintained within the factory buildings there is often considerable nuisance from various sources, namely – (i) the fat extractor; (ii) the emptying of raw guts prior to cleaning; (iii) the drying of wool; (iv) the removal of waste products from the premises; and (v) yard smells when cleaning processes are being carried out.

I have received the active co-operation of the management in further efforts to abate these nuisances and there has been progressive improvement over the last three years. Complaints which were being received over a radius of over half a mile of the factory are now generally confined to a very much smaller radius and are far less frequent, only 15 complaints being received and those principally confined to the middle weeks in June. The pressure cookers were operated under normal atmospheric pressure and this alleviated the smell somewhat, but at the end of July the management were persuaded to operate the fat extractor plant between midnight and 8 a.m. for a trial period and the complaints ceased. The firm undertook to carry out further extensive recommended works during the winter months and these were well in hand by the end of the year.

Attention to yard cleanliness, hosing down of all vehicles after unloading, regular daily removal of noxious waste products and, most important, the goodwill which exists between the firm and this Department has played a major part in relieving the centre of the town from what has, in the past, been a very serious daily nuisance.

A total of 69 visits were made, many of which were of several hours duration while experiments were being conducted.

(b) The other knacker's yard licenced within the Borough is not in active operation, but is used solely for the reception of the occasional dead animal awaiting transport to the firm's main business premises near Doncaster. Some works were carried out to allow it to be used in emergencies. 10 visits were made to the two yards and no nuisances were noted at any time.

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

22 investigations were made in connection with dark smoke from industrial chimneys and railway engines or complaints from householders. A further 51 observations were made on these and other sources of pollution. Most of the 13 notices served in respect of such offences took the shape of informal warnings and advice, which did not need to be repeated. The only outstanding matter at the end of the year was for the provision of proper grit and dust arrestment to a cold blast cupola. The firm have consequently decided to carry out further improvements in conjunction with this work and I have no doubt that general atmospheric conditions in the Albert Road area should be considerably improved during 1965.

Complaints made to British Railways concerning the indiscriminate smoking of engines in the Thrumpton/London Road and West Carr Road sidings were dealt with by internal disciplinary action and it was ascertained that the sidings at London Road, which have been a constant source of nuisance, particularly at weekends, were to be discontinued early in 1965.

Apart from the above mentioned there is no serious atmospheric pollution in Retford from any industrial source which cannot be rectified at short notice, but the haze of smoke which covers the town during the winter months is from low-lying domestic chimneys burning raw coal. The 'smoke and sulphur dioxide' recording apparatus set up in the Public Health Department in late October has already shown that the average daily smoke concentration in Retford was considerably higher than most of the London Boroughs during November and December. This position will continue until a specific smoke control programme can be put into operation.

Notices of intention to install two oil-fired furnaces and two gas-fired furnaces were received. Two applications for 'prior approval' were received from the Nottinghamshire County Council in respect of the provision of coal-fired boilers with underfeed stokers but approval was withheld pending more detailed information.

The Central Electricity Generating Board have undertaken to erect two monitoring stations for smoke and sulphur dioxide – one at Carr Hill County Primary School, Tiln Road and the other at the Retford Golf Course, Brecks Road – as part of their ring of recording stations surrounding the power stations erected in the Rural District. Copies of their reports will be provided.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

This work is carried out on a part-time basis by Mr C. P. Maud, a labourer of the Highways Department staff. He continues to do this work satisfactorily and has been commended by householders and business people alike. The introduction of a free service for all classes of premises other than agricultural holdings has proved very effective and many more reports are being investigated.

	L.A. properties	TYPE OF PROPERTY			
		Dwelling houses	All other premises	Total	Agricultural
No. of properties in L.A. dist.	19	6038	1220	7277	40
Inspected as result of notification	7	215	68	290	3
No. of properties found to be infested by:					
(a) Common Rat	2	185	62	249	—
(b) House Mouse.....	—	6	6	12	—
No. of properties inspected in course of surveying under the Act	—	11	7	18	—
No. of such properties found to be infested by:					
(a) Common Rat	—	10	6	16	—
(b) House Mouse.....	—	—	—	—	—
Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	2	7	9	18	—
No. of such properties found to be infested by:					
(a) Common Rat	2	4	7	13	—
(b) House Mouse.....	—	—	—	—	—
Total treatment carried out ..	6	208	65	279	2

Annual test-baiting of some 10 per cent of sewer manholes is carried out with the co-operation of the local Ministry officer.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

The following tables are in the form prescribed by the Ministry.

1 - INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	No. of Inspections (3)	No. of Written Notices (4)	No. of Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	85	11	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	2	-	-
TOTAL	91	14	-	-

2 — Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more cases)

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. By H.M. Inspector (4)	Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	-	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

154 visits were made to premises during the latter part of the year mainly in connection with the need for registration under Section 49. As a result of these visits a further 94 registrations were received after 31st July, 1964. Because of the spate of statutory instruments and circulars which were being issued laying down specific standards and policies, a commencement of the detailed general inspection of premises was deferred until late in the year to obviate duplication of visits. Although the administration of this new Act does not, in itself, warrant additional staff, it is obvious that a considerable amount of your Inspector's time will need to be spent in this work if we are to carry out the Ministry recommendations.

The following tables are in the form prescribed by the Ministry:

TABLE A — REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>No. of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Total No. of Registered premises at the end of year</i>	<i>No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	57	57	1
Retail shops	157	156	1
Wholesale shops, warehouses	8	8	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	20	20	—
Fuel storage depots	2	2	—
TOTALS	244	243	2

TABLE B — NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES

154

TABLE C — ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES
BY WORKPLACE

<i>Class of Workplace</i>	<i>No. persons employed</i>
Offices	422
Retail shops	727
Wholesale departments, warehouses	81
Catering establishments open to the public	77
Canteens	5
Fuel storage depots	25
Total	1,337
Total Males	528
Total Females	809

TABLE D — EXCEPTIONS

There were no exceptions.

TABLE E — PROSECUTIONS

There were no prosecutions.

TABLE F — INSPECTORS

No. of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act	2
No. of other staff employed for most of this time on work in connection with the Act	NIL
—	—
No. of Accidents reported under Section 48 of the Act	2
No. of Accidents investigated as to causation	2

PETROLEUM [REGULATIONS] ACTS, 1928 and 1936

The following licences were approved during the year:

Licences to store petroleum spirit in underground tanks (private use)	28 (25,200 gallons)
Licences to store petroleum spirit in underground tanks (retail sale)	16 (46,600 gallons)
Licences to store petroleum spirit in cans or containers (retail sale)	1 (10 gallons)
Licences to store petroleum mixtures	8 (375 gallons)
Licences to store calcium carbide (private use)	1 (112 lbs)
Notice of intention to store calcium carbide	1 (max 28 lbs)

New applications during the year included:

N. Myers	West Carr Road	New Filling Station	4,000 gallons
J. Richmond	'Hardmoors', London Road	For private use	250 gallons
Retford Co- operative Soc.	Co-operative House Carolgate	For private use	30 gallons mixtures

118 inspections were made to premises principally with regard to fire prevention and a further 24 visits made in connection with the testing of tanks and pipelines.

I wish to record my appreciation of the work done by members of the staff of the Department and of the advice and co-operation I have received from the other Chief Officers of the Council.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and support during the year.

H. BROOKS

Chief Public Health Inspector

